



A
LETTER
TO A

Buttonian K * * *



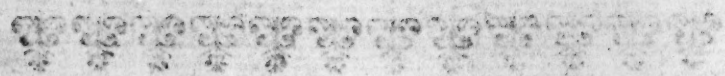


A

LETTER

TO A

Beltonian K ***



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A
L E T T E R

T O A

*Buttonian K * * **

F R O M

Sir JAMES BAKER,

Admirer-General of the Fair-Sex, and
late Secretary of the Toasts of the *Kit-
Cat-Club*.

C O N T A I N I N G

Some Observations on 'Squire *Budgell's* Let-
ter to the Lord * * *

*In Pow'r assuming, furious in Disgrace,
He darts his Venom at the Man in Place.*

Dryden Misc.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. Roberts in *Warwick-Lane*. 1718 .

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LETTER

TO A

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ERNEST LEWIS GAY
JUNE 15, 1927

FROM

SIR JAMES BAKER

Admiral-General of the Pan-Sea and
the Secretary of the Board of the Mi-

(Circ. Lib.)

CONTAINING

Some Observations on the Budget of the
for the Lord

In the following, James is referred to
as the author of the plan in Place.
Dyden M. H.

LONDON:

Printed for J. Roberts in Warwick-Lane. 1770
Price 4s.



LETTER, &c.

S I R,



T a Time when your Hands and your Head are full ; the first being hard at Work on a new Play now upon the Stocks, in order to launch it as soon as possible, to check the Progress of the *French Farce* ; the latter being intent upon improving that most excellent and late-invented *Vehicle* for preserving of *Sprats*, &c. At such a Time, I say, I should

6 Sept 12 P 40 cd.ed

I should have been the last Person of the Assembly of *Belle-Esprits* at B—
—'s, that would have given you a Trouble of this Kind, had not the extraordinary Conduct of a Member of the said Assembly, made it necessary, if not incumbent on me, as Comptroller-General of all publick and private Scandal.

I and my Lord *Bacon* are of Opinion, That Good Sense and Discretion are as necessary to form a Man of Business, as Wit. Hereafter, Let no Great Man be overfond of the Superficial. ' There is (says ' that noble Philosopher) no decaying ' Merchant, or inward Beggar, hath so ' many Tricks to uphold the Credit of ' his Wealth, as these empty Persons have ' to maintain the Credit of their Sufficiency. Pretenders to Wit may make shift ' to get Opinion; but let no Man chuse ' them for Employment.' Discretion is not only necessary in, but also in the Loss of, an Employment: To confirm this, I shall rather propose my own Example, than the Authority of any Great Man, in the following Observations on both these Instances.

There

There was a Time, when I thought I should have been very happy in the *Surintendance* of the Stage, being introduc'd to take Possession of that Post by some of very great Figure and Quality. What my Chin suffer'd by a Trap-Door, on which I pronounc'd my initiatory Harangue, the ill-natur'd Criticisms that were made upon my Speech, and my printing it (once, Sir, your Case) for my Vindication; how soon I was depos'd from my imaginary Government, is not unknown to many of the *Right Honourable* of this Island; but did I immediately upon this Occasion give the World an Inventory of my Qualifications? Did I proclaim, how many lurking Emetics I had discover'd by the Staunchness of my Nose, or what Business I had dispatch'd by the Activity of my Teeth? Did I boast of my Knowledge in culinary Affairs, the Complaisance of my Stomach, or the Chastity of my Fingers among Silver Spoons? No, Sir, I was sensible *how indecent it was for a Man to say or write any Thing to his own Advantage, tho' I was borne hard upon, and my own Vindication made it in a Manner necessary:*
How

How far Mr. Accomptant has conform'd to this Rule and my Example, I shall rather refer my courteous Reader to some Passages I shall point out in his Letter, than transcribe them here.

In this I consider the saving your Time, and my own, both very precious; and likewise, which is of greater Moment to my Reader, the saving of Two Pence in the Price of these my Observations; a Circumstance which no Man of a publick Spirit ought to neglect.

Besides, in my following Remarks, I shall interperse some Considerations, which may be of great Advantage to such of my Readers, as have not, or perhaps care not to read Mr. Accomptant's Letter; otherwise I might oblige but a very small Number of my Fellow-Subjects, for whose Commonweal I have and shall calculate all my *Practical Schemes*, as well as my *Speculative Lucubrations*.

And here I must beg Mr. Accomptant to wait a While; for I shall have no Place so *apropos* to acquaint the Publick, That I have contriv'd, with vast Study, a Vehicle and Vehicle, which will pre-

preserve **Tripe** and **Sheeps-Trotters** sweet and fresh to any Part of the World : A Food so excessively admir'd by the Inhabitants of the *Spice-Islands*, that I should be too vain to tell my Countrymen what great Offers I have refus'd from the *D—ch*, who trade to those Parts; for no other Reason, but that my own Country may enjoy the Benefit of my said Invention; in the Publication whereof, whether I shall proceed by Patent or Subscription, I shall be much guided by you, and that ingenious Projector and Wit, *A—n H—*, Esq; who lately invented the making Oyl of Beech-Mast.

Neque Oleum, nec operam perdidit.

Before I proceed too on my Observations on Mr. Accomptant's said Letter, I think it necessary solemnly to assure the World, that neither Mr. Secretary *Web—r* has given me a Cast of his Office, nor the *D—* of *B—* a Regale at his Table; and that as I have not apply'd for, directly nor indirectly, so I have no Expectation of, any of Mr. *Bud—l's* Places, though I am told there is good picking and
B
choosing

choosing among them. — No, — Sir, I hope you and the World know me too well, to believe that I would write any Man out of his Place, in Hopes to get it: And though I differ from that Gentleman in some Things, I shall always preserve a just Regard for him, as he is the nearest Relation of Mr. *Addison*, and the best Friend of Mrs. ———: Having premis'd this, I proceed.

I conceive, with humble Submission to Mr. Accomptant's Opinion, that a Man who has taken all his Degrees in a publick Office, may as well be qualify'd in all Forms of Business, (whether he has a Daughter very pretty or not) to commence Secretary of State, as one who has been matriculated at a University, and made himself Master of the Eight Parts of Speech, and who afterwards finishes his Studies, in remarking on the Forms of a Visit, the Address of the *Beau Mond*, and the Drama of the Stage.

For Instance, There is, Sir, one Master *Low—des*. — Why, some frothy People upon seeing him, cry, *That Man*
has

has no Soul; yet what natural and acquir'd Parts has he! — An admirable Secretary, though no fine Gentleman!

I would entreat Mr. Accomptant carefully to reveiw one Fact, he informs his noble Correspondent of, before he inserts it among the Remarkables of his intended History of *Ireland*, viz. That a single Company of Militia, [Foot] which he saw there, might have been taken for regular Troops [of Horse.] This I find is not readily digested by some military Criticks. It would likewise, Sir, be of Service to him, if you could perswade him to insert in the next Edition of his Letter, the particular Sum which was so obstinately press'd upon him, as a Mark of his Master's Esteem, and which he as obstinately re- *Pag. 11.* fus'd, least some *Free-thinkers* and *Sceptics* should think it refus'd, because it was not proportion'd to his Merit. Others, dull of Apprehension, want to know, by *Pag. 12.* what Term of Speech a civil Recommendation from a Superior, is call'd *Quartering* of a Clerk upon any

Inferior Officer: And how the Refusal of Money, in any Case *Pag. 9.* where Authority checks the pressing it, can claim the Merit of Self-Denial, and Zeal for the publick Service.

If Mr. Accomptant should take Notice of those particular, and undeniable Instances of Mr. Secretary *Web-*
Page 23 *ster's* Capacity and Integrity in Business, in the next *Irish* Parliament, as he has some Thoughts of doing, some military Gentlemen desire that he would there thank Mr. Secretary in their Behalf, for not sending them to the Secretary's Office in *Ireland* for their Commissions sign'd here, since they were then upon the Spot to receive them, and some of them order'd to embarque with the Forces at *Spithead*, to supply the Garrisons Abroad. And likewise to thank Mr. Secretary for his Generosity, in accepting a less Gratuity than they would have press'd upon him for this Civility. And they humbly hope their Rank, and Precedence will be as well preserv'd by the Entry of an authentick Copy of their Commissions, as if their Commissions themselves had
 been

been transmitted to the Secretary's Office in *Ireland*, to be enter'd there, and they put to the Expence and Trouble of following them thither, or having them return'd.

And here, Sir, I would beg Leave to propose to Mr. Accomptant Mr. *Ad—n's* great Moderation of Temper and Speech in Publick Assemblies, when Mr. Accomptant stands up in his Place in the *House of C—s*. There are some *S—e-Doctors*, at the first Appearance of a malignant Humour in the Body Politick, fall into the Use of Acids, rather than Alkalies, which, for the Benefit of my *English* Readers, I explain: A correcting of the said Malignity, rather than reducing it by gentle Applications. A Method some of the *Noble and Sen—al Doctors* of *Great Britain* (with Sorrow I speak it) have apply'd both to my *Anterioribus & Posterioribus*; but indeed I must say, That sometimes they have made Use of these Applications, (*sine Causâ satis consideratâ*) when my *Inward Man* has rather requir'd REPLETION than EXPULSION.

Having

Having two great Works upon my Hands, which my Bookseller presses to have finish'd, before the Attention of the *Beau Mond* is entirely taken up with Mr. Heideker's Assemblies and Masquerades ; the World must excuse me from examining the nice *Traits*, with which Mr. Accomptant draws a Picture, or finishes a Character. I have prevail'd upon a very great *Connaisseur*, lately arriv'd from *Italy*, to undertake this Work : But I earnestly desire Mr. Accomptant, as a Gentleman and a Christian, to restore to the right Owners all the Ornaments he has borrow'd, for the embellishing of any such Character : Which may be easily done, by inserting in his next Edition, instead of the following Description, *viz.* p. 32.

It is not the Result of any particular Feature, nor of all Features, &c.

Insert,

'Tis not a Lip, or Eye, we Beauty call,
But the joint Force and full Result of all.
Pope's Essay.

Instead

Instead of

But an Emanation of the Mind,

Insert,

*And Charms are Emanations of the Mind,
Gay's Poem on the P——s Landing.*

Instead of

*When his Majesty's Affairs allow him to
take a Progress, Thousands of his Sub-
jects grow Loyal while they behold him.*

Insert,

*Oh! may I live to see the Day,
When the glad Nation shall survey
Their Sovereign thro' his wide Command,
Passing in Progress o'er the Land,
Each Heart shall bend, and ev'ry Voice
In loud applauding Shouts rejoyce,
Whilst all his gracious Aspect praise,
And Crowds grow Loyal as they gaze.
Mr Addison to Sir. G. Kneller.*

Having

Having urg'd this Restitution on Mr. Accomptant's Conscience, I would commend the Fate of a certain Historiographer, as an Object of his Prudence, before he enters upon the Characters of Men and Account of Things, in his History, which he has promis'd to be very particular in. He says, (and he says well) That he will flatter no Great Man—— Let him avoid another Extream—— That Historiographer I mention'd, was Monsieur *Sorbiere*, Author of *The Voyage to England*, publish'd about 1708; wherein, among Heaps of Scurrility, he taxes

Vide Mr. Bud--l's the *English* Gentry
Letter, p. 29, and Nobility, as not
 32, 37, 38. over honest nor sincere; debauch'd with

Sloth and Luxury—— In short, he bestows on them not much better Names than *Panders* and *Catamites*, than *Pimps* and *Buffoons*; but he takes Care to load the *French* King, to whom he presented this Book, [in *French*] with Heaps of heavy *Eulogium's*; who, instead of rewarding him, dismiss'd him from his * Places, and banish'd him.

I would

* *M. Sorbiere was Historiographer-Royal, Canon, &c.*

fities, that these Rules being generally read and observ'd, many of his Majesty's Lay-Subjects may be rather inclin'd to pay their Taxes than their Lawyers; and the Ecclesiasticks taught not to waste that precious Time, now more particularly employ'd for the Prosperity and Security of *Great Britain*, and the general Peace of *Europe*; Waste it, I say, in hearing and determining their Controversies.

I am,

S I R,

Yours profoundly, &c.

N. B.

N. B. Next Term I shall publish my Critical Remarks on some Heterodox Opinions relating to the present State of the Diet in *England*: Wherein I have examin'd the Intrigues of the *Olio-lists*, and used my honest Endeavours to reconcile the long Quarrel between the different Sects of the *Surloiners* and the *Hodg-podgians*.

F I N I S.

